Indian Air Force, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any talks were held in this regard during the recent visit of Mr. Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary of U.K.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Acquisition of Advanced Jet Trainer for Indian Air Force has been accepted by the Government and on the basis of detailed technical evaluation of proposals from shortlisted vendors, a Committee has been constituted to negotiate the purchase proposals.

(b) This subject was raised by the Foreign Secretary of U.K. Mr. Douglas Hurd during his recent visit to India. He was informed that the matter is under consideration.

Attempted rape by army jawans

53. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to news item captioned "Jawans' bid to rape two school girls" appearing in Indian Express dated 17th August, 1993; and

(b) if so, what action Government have initiated on the army jawans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir. 2 NCO's had been identified.

(b) Disciplinary proceeding have been initiated against them.

Opening of new Defence Production Units

54. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to open some new defence production units during the Eighth Five Year Plan period in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of such units approved for Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is no proposal at present to set up new defence production unit anywhere in India including Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Utilisation of vacant land in cantonments

55. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to dispose of or otherwise gainfully utilise the vacant land in cantonments and those in possession of the various departments under his Ministry;

(b) if so, how much of such lands has been identified; and

(c) what are the precise plans for utilizing or disposing of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) There has been a continuing policy that lands rendered permanently surplus to Defence requirements will be disposed of by sale on realisation of market value to various agencies in the following order of preference:

(i) Other Ministries of Central Government.

(ii) State Governments.

(iii) Local bodies.

(iv) Educational and Charitable Institutions.

(v) Ex-Serviceman (individual plots only for residential purpose.

In case none of the above agencies responds to the offer, the surplus Defence

lands are to be put to sale by public auction. Certain isolited poskets of Defence

Certain isolated pockets of Defence lands, Camping grounds and abandoned airfields measuring approximately 15,000 acres have so far been identified for disposal, on a tentative basis.

Anomalies in the one rank one pension Scheme

56. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1027 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th July, 1992 and state:

(a) what is the outcome of the Committee set up by Government to examine the anomalies to meet their demands;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are pursuing the policy towards implementation of the scheme;

(c) what is the number of ex-servicemen on pension as on date, category-wise and rank-wise;

(d) what would be the estimated expenditure per annum after the consideration of demands;

(e) whether Government will announce this scheme by the year end; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (f) The Committee has submitted its report to the Government. The recommendations of the Committee which may entail an annual expenditure of the order of Rs. 20 crores approximately are being processed, and a decision thereon is likely to be taken shortly.

The number of service pensioners is as under:

(i) Commissioned Officers (as at the end of Oct., 93)	26,530 approx.
(ii) JCOs/ORs (as the end of Aug., 93)	11,37,280 approx.

(Category-wise/rank-wise figures are not being maintained)

Proposal of Commercial Borrowing by Indian Navy

57. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Navy contemplate to go in for commercial borrowing in view of the budgetary cuts in the sector recently;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the budgetary cuts; and

(c) what are the details and extent of the borrowing envisaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) Looking to the perception of security threats at any given time, efforts are made to ensure the availability of adequate funds in order to address our concerns in this regard. Presently there is no proposal for the Indian Navy to go in for commercial borrowing.

Manufacture of Arjun Tanks

58. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Main Battle Tanks (MBT), Arjun that have so far been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation; and

(b) what are the reason for delay in the manufacture of MBTs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) So far 12 MK-I prototypes and 6 pre-production series tanks of Main Battle Tank—ARJUN have been manufactured. 9 more pre-production series tanks are under manufacture.